RG104 E-1 Box 159

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE SUPERVISING ARCHITECT,
WASHINGTON, D. C., October 16th.,1889.

Hon. D. M. Fox,
Superintendent, U.S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

I have had under consideration the method of constructing the new stack for the Mint, and the more thought I give it the more doubtful I am whether I have at command all the information necessary for making the best possible arrangement.

The following questions have arisen on which I think Dr. Tuttle, of your office, could throw a good deal of light, and I shall be greatly obliged if you will ask him to report upon them:-

Can gas be substituted for coal for firing the furnaces in the assay, annealing and engraving rooms?

What will be the relative economy of gas and coal as fuel?

What advantage will gas have over coal?

Is there any process by which the nitrous fumes from smelting, etc.,can be disposed of, otherwise than by the use of the stack?

Is iron a proper material of which to construct a stack exposed to the destructive fumes incident to the processes carried on in the

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I shall be glad to have the opinions of Dr. Tuttle on these points, and his suggestions on any matters connected with the subject.

Respectfully yours,

Supervising Architect.

NARA RG104, Entry 1, Box 159

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Office of the Supervising Architect,
Washington, D.C.,
October 16, 1889

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Respectfully yours,
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Supervising Architect.
J.B.V.